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ARMED DRUG DEALER RECEIVES 10 YEARS

Jacksonville, Florida - Yesterday, United States District Judge Henry Lee Adams, Jr. sentenced Kareem Blackshear, age 21, to 10 years' imprisonment. Blackshear was indicted for distribution of cocaine, possession of cocaine base with intent to distribute and possession of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime.

The case represents the culmination of a cooperative effort between the United States Attorney's Office, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the State Attorney's Office for the Fourth Judicial Circuit. This is another case prosecuted as a part the Department of Justice program "Project Safe" Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong support from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. United States Attorney Robert O'Neill is coordinating the cooperative effort here in the Middle District of Florida with federal, state and local law enforcement officials. The objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.

The case was investigated by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Talbot.